

Church News Ireland



Image of the day – Music is ministry

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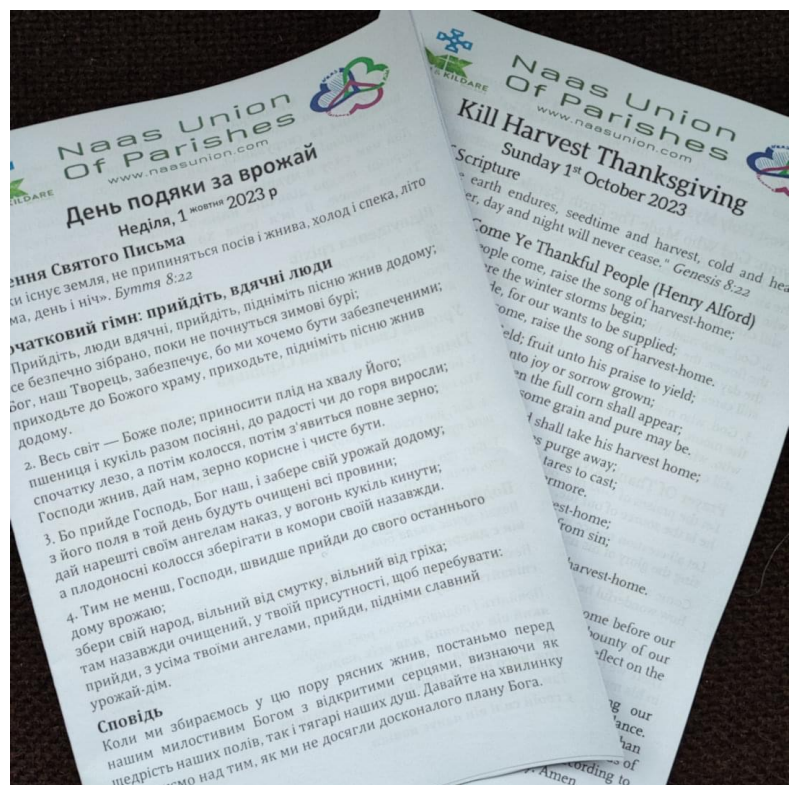
Music is ministry

By the most pleasant of coincidences uplifting news. accounts arrived with CNI from Belfast and Cork. In today's issue St Finbarre's, St Anne's and St George's (photo above) illustrate that church music is maintained by renewed talented and committed membership. To those who strive to offer their very best to God in worship - Floreat. Gloria in excellis Deo.

People and places

Naas Union outreach to Ukrainian neighbours

“Over the last few months we've had a few of our Ukrainian brothers and sisters in Christ visit us. Some of the parishioners have made and kept





contact with them. They are staying locally”, Naas Union says on its Facebook page.

“We knew some were coming to the Harvest Service and had translated the service for them but didn't expect so many! About 40 came along, what an incredible blessing.

“Yana, acted as as impromptu translator during the service. We had our reading from Luke's Gospel read in English and Ukrainian. We prayed for Ukraine and we joined in the Lord's Prayer as one, saying it in our own language simultaneously.

“The Ukrainians brought some of their knitted wares for us to share out and a beautifully arranged basket of fruit. As we

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shared refreshments together they sang for us a beautiful Ukrainian hymn.

“There are moments that remind us that God is a God of surprises”.

Michaelmas Law Term service

On Monday morning the Archbishop of Dublin presided at a service in St Michan’s parish church to mark the commencement of the Michaelmas Law Term.

The address was given by the Revd Robert Marshall, Registrar and Provincial Registrar of the Diocese of Dublin and Glendalough.

Planning sought for new development at Kiltyclogher C of I

The development would facilitate the conversion of an existing out building for use as a Parish Hall at Kiltyclogher Church.

Planning permission is being sought for a new development at a church in Leitrim.

The rector of Kiltyclogher Church of Ireland submitted the application last Thursday.

The development would facilitate the conversion of an existing out building for use as a Parish Hall at Kiltyclogher Church.

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The planning permission comprises of the refurbishment and extension of the existing out-building to include thermal and fabric upgrades, window replacement, a new roof replacement and revised openings to the East elevation.

The application has been received by county planners and is to be decided upon by November. Report courtesy of Shannonside News

Cathedral Music Trust's visit to St Fin Barre's Cork



St Fin Barre's Cathedral, Cork was delighted to welcome Giverny McAndry from Cathedral Music Trust

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to its Choral Eucharist and Holy Baptism last Sunday morning.

Ms McAndry was introduced to the congregation by the cathedral's Director of Music, Peter Stobart.

Following her short address to the congregation at the end of the service the Dean conveyed thanks to the Trust for their generous grant to fund singing lessons for the choristers.

It was a delight to have one of the tutors, Mary McSweeney from the MTU School of Music at the service too.

New Choral and Organ Scholars installed in Belfast





On Sunday at a service of Choral Evensong five talented young musicians were installed into Belfast Cathedral's Music Department.

Connie, Jessica, and James joined as Choral Scholars (Alto, Soprano, and Tenor respectively), whilst Darragh joined as the Billy Adair Memorial Organ Scholar, and Finn as the Junior Organ Scholar. The Scholars and their families were welcomed to the wider Cathedral community.

All five individuals have already made a lasting impression on the musical and liturgical life of the Cathedral, showing their dedication, willingness, and passion in their duties. They made made a significant contribution to Sunday's service, with James singing the tenor solo in Howells' Collegium Regale Nunc Dimittis, Jessica the soprano solo in Will Todd's Lead me, Lord, and worship concluded with a

St Columb's Cathedral

'Come and Sing' Taster Event

Saturday 7th October
10am to 12.30pm

Be a Chorister for a morning
A morning for boy and girl singers,
age 7 and above, and their parents.
Experience the role of a Cathedral Chorister

Information morning to include:
Cathedral tour, Singing rehearsal,
Social time, Parent presentation,
Choristers meet and greet,
Workshop performance.



Admission free
All faith backgrounds welcome
For further information contact
Derek Collins organist@stcolumbs.net

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rousing performance of Pardini's Toccata on "Amazing Grace" by Darragh.

Following the service a reception in the Cathedral hall. If you're interested in opportunities to sing at Belfast Cathedral, full details can be found in the music section of its website: <https://www.belfastcathedral.org/music>

The Cathedral's Services and Music List for October 2023 is available to view and download at the Cathedral website: <https://www.belfastcathedral.org/music/music-list>

New choristers at St George's



Welcome to Milo, Daniel, Séan, Arthur, Rocco, Aian, Stefan and Leo who became choristers at St George's on Sunday afternoon at Evensong.

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Their first setting was Stanford in C, Responses by Rose and the Anthem, 'And I saw a new heaven' by Bainton. The leadership in the historic Belfast city-centre parish look forward to watching them develop as choristers and more as they get older.

Argentinian tenor in St Ann's

The Argentinian tenor, Miguel Silva Macias, will perform Argentinian art songs and opera arias at 1:20 on Thursday in St Ann's church, Dublin.

History today in Christ Church, Dublin

Christ Church cathedral, Dublin, is hosting a lecture series as part of the Dublin Festival of History.

The series is entitled 'Buttresses, Bridges and Bones: Conserving Christ Church', and marks the publication of the cathedral's new Conservation Management Plan.

Last week Frank Keohane, the author of the Conservation Plan, provided 'An Introduction to conserving Christ Church. Today, Tuesday at 1.10pm, Tom Little, the cathedral's Director of Music, will speak about 'Cathedral Music: Past, Present and Future' followed by Canon Roy Byrne who will introduce 'The Christ Church Plate Collection'

Dublin & Glendalough Diocesan Synod

The Dublin & Glendalough Diocesan Synod will be held this evening (Tuesday) in the Taney Parish Centre, preceded by

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a celebration of the Eucharist at 4pm in Christ Church, Taney, where the Archbishop will give an address.

Year of Vocations launched - Church asks Limerick men to ‘take the risk for Christ’

A major campaign aimed at getting men to sign on to be priests is coming to Limerick, having been launched recently by the Bishop of Killaloe.

The diocese has announced a year-long initiative as part of a national effort by the Catholic Church in Ireland to increase vocations to the diocesan priesthood this year.

The Killaloe diocese promotional campaign is being rolled out in Limerick, Clare, Tipperary, Offaly, and Laois.

Castleconnell will be one of the first ports of call in a schedule of parish visits starting next week.

With new vocations falling and older clergy taking a step back from active ministry, only one in two parishes are served by a resident priest.

Vocations Director Fr Iggy McCormack said:

“Geographically, we are the third largest diocese in the country and as it has become increasingly difficult to maintain full cover across the five counties due to retirements and a lower number of vocations”.

“The idea of young men taking up a vocation has arguably become more countercultural in recent years, but we are

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very hopeful that we can build on recent progress whereby three men from the diocese will enter the seminary at Maynooth over the next 12 months.”



A new priest - Fr Ruaidhri Grieve OP was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Eamon Martin of Armagh in St Catherine's Church, Newry. Irish Dominicans. Thanks to Sean and Peadar, servers at the ordination of Fr Ruaidri Grieve OP in Newry. A wonderful occasion for the Irish Dominicans and the people of Newry Ad multos annos, Father Ruaidhri - to many happy years of priesthood!

Fr McCormack said the campaign of parish church visits aim to get people talking about encouraging more people to explore the possibility and get information.

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Launching the Year of Vocations, on the theme of ‘Taking the Risk for Christ’, Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan said: “A key objective of this Year of Vocations is to start conversations within families, with priests, and in parish communities on the beauty of the vocation of priesthood. Feedback from newly ordained priests indicates a strong correlation between their calling and encouragement received from a priest about their ministry”. Courtesy Bernie English and Limerick Post

News reports



Archbishop of Canterbury meets Pope Francis at the Vatican

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Archbishop Justin Welby and Pope Francis discussed migration, climate change and the peacebuilding role of churches, when they met at the Vatican this weekend.

On the same morning that 21 new Catholic Cardinals from all over the world received their red birettas in St Peter's Square in Rome, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, had a long, private meeting with the Pope, at the Apostolic Palace at the Vatican.

Lambeth Palace reports that among other topics the two spiritual leaders shared memories of their historic joint visit to South Sudan earlier this year. The mainly Christian country is preparing for presidential elections in a year's time, its first since winning independence from neighbouring Sudan more than a decade ago.

Archbishop Justin Welby said: "It's always a privilege to meet with my dear brother, Pope Francis. Today we shared



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our hopes for South Sudan, and discussed the impact of migration and climate change on the world's poorest."

Pope Francis has spoken publicly in recent weeks about the "globalisation of indifference" in the Western world towards many of the world's biggest challenges.

The Archbishop continued: "May our churches be united in bringing Christ's good news to a world in need."

According to Lambeth Palace, Pope Francis also asked about a peacebuilding mission led by Archbishop Welby's wife Caroline Welby. 'Women on the Frontline' equips women to be reconcilers in places of conflict.

The two leaders, who are both charismatic and believe in the continuing use of spiritual gifts, then shared with each other about the Holy Spirit's power to bring harmony, though "not always tidiness".

While in Rome the Archbishop of Canterbury officially opened a special exhibition at the John Moorman Memorial Library at the Anglican Centre in Rome. It includes a piece of pottery by Rebecca Cottrell, a professional potter and wife of the Archbishop of York.

Justin Welby also took part in an ecumenical prayer vigil in St Peter's Square, ahead of a 3-week Synod meeting where Catholic leaders will discuss some of the issues facing the church including the role of women, LGBT+ Catholics, and celibacy for priests. Pope Francis invited the leaders of Churches from different denominations to join him in prayer, entrusting the work to the Holy Spirit.

Silence is 'essential' says Pope Francis at Synod prayer vigil



What an incredible moment - Christian leaders of different denominations stood together as a visible sign of Christian unity, at the ecumenical prayer vigil in St Peter's Square for Together 2023

Pope Francis told those gathered at an ecumenical prayer vigil days before the opening of the Synod on Synodality that silence is essential for Christians.

“In a world full of noise, we are no longer accustomed to silence; indeed sometimes we struggle with it, because silence forces us to face God and ourselves. Yet it lies at the

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foundation of the Word and of life,” the pope said in St. Peter’s Square on Saturday evening.



Archbishop of Canterbury - With Pontifex in Rome, we prayed for peace in a world of conflict and displacement. At this time, please pray especially for the many thousands of Armenian Karabakhs who have fled their homes in recent days, and for those seeking to provide them with aid and support.

Before thousands of young people and Christian leaders from around the world, Francis emphasised the importance of silent prayer.

“Silence is essential in the life of the believer,” he said. “Indeed, it lies at the beginning and end of Christ’s earthly existence. The Word, the Word of the Father, became ‘silence’ in the manger and on the cross, on the night of the Nativity and on the night of his Passion.”

The prayer service, called “Together,” which was organised by the ecumenical community Taizé, included eight minutes of silence for personal prayer.

“Like the great crowd in the Book of Revelation, we prayed in silence, listening to a ‘great silence,’” Francis said.

“Indeed, silence is important and powerful: it can express unspeakable sorrow in the face of misfortune, but also, in moments of joy, a gladness that goes beyond words.”

Three other heads of churches attended the prayer vigil together with other Catholic and Christian leaders: Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I of Constantinople, Primate of the Anglican Church Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury and Syriac Orthodox Patriarch Ignatius Aphrem II. The three leaders also had individual private meetings with Pope Francis on Saturday morning.

The two-hour service featured the singing of Taizé hymns and other songs, scripture readings, testimonies by young Christians from around the world, a re-enactment of the Parable of the Good Samaritan, and a prayer called “The Way of God the Creator” which reflected on the gift of God’s creation as spoken about in the Bible.

There were also intercessory prayers introduced by Christian church leaders and read by fraternal delegates to the synod. Fraternal delegates are synod participants from other Christian traditions. Unlike most delegates, they do not have the right to vote.

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Over the next few days before the opening, the synod's participants will take part in a spiritual retreat in Sacrofano, Italy, about 15 miles north of Rome.

In his reflection, Pope Francis also spoke about the importance of silence for the Synod on Synodality.

“Silence, in the ecclesial community, makes fraternal communication possible, where the Holy Spirit draws together points of view,” he said. “What is more, silence enables true discernment, through attentive listening to the Spirit’s ‘sighs too deep for words’ (Romans 8:26) that echo, often hidden, within the People of God.”

He added that silence is also essential for the journey of Christian unity.

“Indeed, [silence] is fundamental to prayer, and ecumenism begins with prayer and is sterile without it. Jesus himself prayed that his disciples ‘may all be one’ (John 17:21),” he said.

Pope Francis emphasised that silence is also an important aspect of evangelisation, because “truth does not need loud cries to reach people’s hearts”.

“God does not like declarations and shouting, gossiping and noise: rather, he prefers, as he did with Elijah, to speak in the ‘still small voice’ (1 Kings 19:12), in a ‘thread of resounding silence,’” he said.

“We too, then, like Abraham, like Elijah, like Mary, need to free ourselves from so much noise in order to hear his

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voice. For only in our silence does his word resound,” the pope said.



First Synod Retreat Meditation with Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP
<https://indcatholicnews.com/news/48139> via
[@icn_uk](#)

During the prayer vigil, copies of the Marian icon “Salus Populi Romani” and the San Damiano Cross – before which St. Francis of Assisi received the Lord’s commission to rebuild the Church – were present on the terrace in front of St. Peter’s Basilica.

After the formal end of the service, people were invited to approach the cross and icon for a moment of personal prayer and meditation while the song “Jesus, Remember Me”, was played.

Earlier in the day, hundreds of Christian young adults from around Europe participated in workshops and a praise and

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worship service organised by the Diocese of Rome at the Basilica of St. John Lateran, before walking about three miles to St. Peter's Basilica for the ecumenical prayer vigil. Courtesy The Tablet 01/10/2023.

“On this first day of retreat for the Synod delegates, I have met fascinating people who love the Church very much and work hard in the Lord's vineyard. Thank you, Lord, for these encounters! St. Therese, patroness of missions, pray for us!” - Fr. Ivan Montelongo

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

Church News Ireland

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